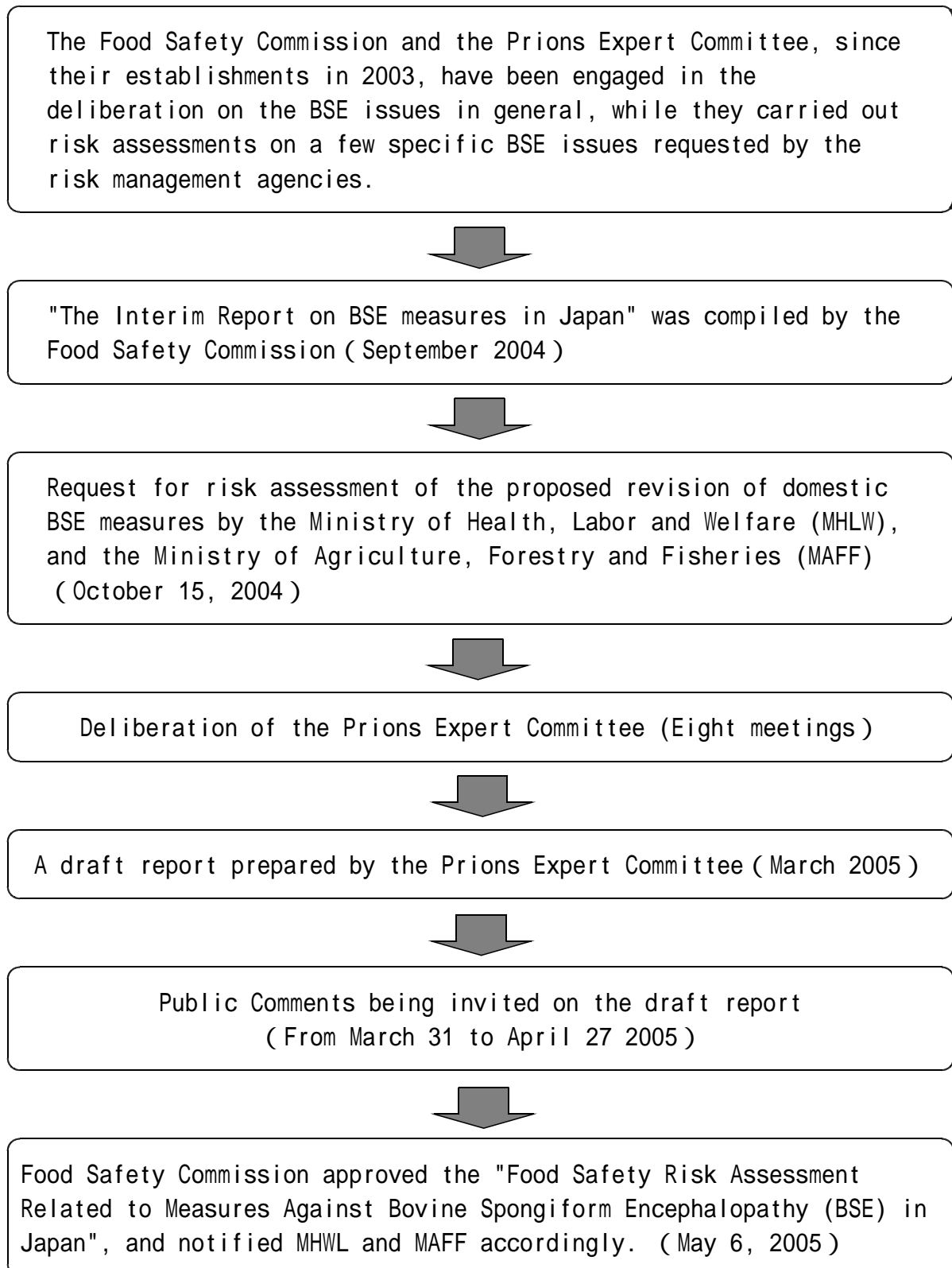


Deliberation of the Food Safety Commission on the revision of BSE measures in Japan

1 . Procedural chart outlining the assessment of risk arising from the revision of BSE measures in Japan



2 . The procedure of the Prions Expert Committee meetings

- All deliberations of the Prions Expert Committee are open to the public.
- The Committee starts discussion on data and evidences collected by them as well as those submitted by risk management agencies. In proceeding with the deliberations, the Committee may request the risk management agencies to submit additional information for further deliberations.
- The chairman prepares a draft report in consultation with the vice-chairman and presents it to each expert committee member for comments. The revised draft report is used as a material for discussion.
- The Food Safety Commission and the Committee were engaged in risk communication, in such a way as to be involved in the exchange of opinions with consumers during deliberation process and to invite public comments on the final draft report.

3 . Deliberation of the Prions Expert Committee for risk assessments on the revision of BSE measures in Japan, which was proposed by the risk management agencies on October 15, 2004:

< The 15th Meeting >

1. Date/Time: Tuesday, October 26, 2004 -10:00am.
2. Agenda: Revision of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) measures in Japan
 - Clarifications on assessment request for the proposed revision of BSE measures
 - The expert committee decided to continue the discussion in the following meetings, based on the discussion on the data requested by the expert committee members.

(Note) Points of assessment request jointly by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)

- 1 Revision of cattle age subject to BSE testing
- 2 Removal of specified risk materials (SRMs) and prevention of cross contamination
- 3 Reinforcement of securing feed ban effectiveness
- 4 Research development

< The 16th Meeting >

1. Date/Time: Tuesday, November 16, 2004 -3:00pm.
2. Agenda: Revision of BSE measures in Japan
 - Discussion on the risk assessment policy for the revision of BSE measures
 - Clarifications on the data provided by MHLW and MAFF
 - Presentation by an expert committee member of the data of an abnormal prion protein detected in peripheral nerves and paranephros tissues.
 - The expert committee decided to continue the discussion based on the additional data requested by the expert committee members.

< The 17th Meeting >

1. Date/Time: Monday, December 12, 2004 -1:00pm.
2. Agenda: Revision of BSE measures in Japan
 - Clarifications on the additional data and documents provided by MHLW and MAFF.
 - Chairman explained the draft risk assessment policy of BSE based on the previous

discussion.

- The expert committee decided to continue discussion on the assessment policy in the following meetings while preparing a draft report.

< The 18th Meeting >

1. Date/Time: Wednesday, December 22, 2004 -10:00am.

2. Agenda: Revision of BSE measures in Japan

- A draft report for discussion, proposed by chairman and vice-chairman based on the assessment policy, was presented to the expert committee members.

- The expert committee decided to continue the discussion on the revision of BSE measures in Japan, based on the discussion on the comments which the expert committee requested the members to submit by the next meeting.

< The 19th Meeting >

1. Date/Time: Friday, January 21, 2005 -9:30am.

2. Agenda: Revision of BSE measures in Japan

- Comments submitted by the expert committee members on the draft report were examined. The expert committee agreed to the structure of the draft report and entered into elaboration of the report.

- The expert committee members were requested to submit comments on the draft report by the next meeting for further discussion.

- Results of the exchange of view meetings on BSE and the risk management measures on the utilization of protein of swine origin for feeds were presented.

< The 20th Meeting >

1. Date/Time: Thursday, February 24, 2005 -3:00pm.

2. Agenda: Revision of BSE measures in Japan

- The draft report, which was revised based on comments submitted by the expert committee members on the draft report for discussion presented in the 18th meeting, was discussed.

- The expert committee decided to prepare a revised report which included descriptions on qualitative assessment and to request comments from the expert committee members for discussion in the following meeting.

- A case of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (vCJD) detected in Japan was presented.

< The 21st Meeting >

1. Date/Time: Friday, March 11, 2005 -9:30am.

2. Agenda: Revision of BSE measures in Japan

- The draft report, which was revised based on the comments submitted by the expert committee members, was discussed.

- After the thorough discussion on the report, the expert committee decided to revise the draft report by including conclusions drafted by chairman and vice-chairman, and to continue the discussion in the following meetings based on the comments which the expert committee requested the members to submit by the next meeting.

< The 22nd Meeting >

1. Date/Time: Friday, March 28, 2005 -4:00pm.

2. Agenda: Revision of BSE measures in Japan

- Part of the conclusion in the draft report, which was revised based on the comments submitted by the expert committee members, was discussed.

- After the thorough discussion on the report, the expert committee agreed that the chairman was to finalize the draft report by getting final confirmation with the expert committee members on the revision based on the comments in the discussion.

* The result of the discussion was reported at the 88th Committee Meeting (held on March 31, 2005) and invited for public comments.